

Chelmsford Business

Issue 56 October 2017



Chelmsford City
Showcase
for Business

15th November
Pre-register now

www.chelmsfordshowcase.eventbrite.co.uk

Best Growth Hub - Business Support

Business Improvement District

New Local Plan

Funding Opportunities

Skills



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This publication has been produced by the Economic Development and Implementation Team at Chelmsford City Council.

Contributions and comments are always welcome and it is only through the involvement and participation of the wider business community that the publication will flourish.

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Views expressed by contributors do not necessarily reflect those of their employers or Chelmsford City Council.



Cover: Hylands House, venue for the Chelmsford City Showcase for Business. (Photo: Ruth S. Hart)

Welcome



As the days become shorter and the end of the year begins to creep ever closer, it provides an ideal opportunity to reflect on the successes of 2017. Work is now well underway on Essex's first School of Medicine, Bond Street has recently celebrated its first birthday and is thriving with near full occupancy and Essex has won the County Cricket Championship!

A year has now passed since the Chelmsford Business Board was relaunched with vigour. Close liaison with businesses has always been a high priority for Chelmsford City Council, who are keen to ensure businesses have a voice and work in close partnership with the Council to support Chelmsford's continued growth and economic success.

The refreshed Chelmsford Business Board, comprising the key businesses and public-sector organisations that operate in Chelmsford, has accomplished much during the past year. The Board has adopted an Economic Strategy, identified key priorities for Chelmsford, and lobbied on and responded to a number of government consultations, including the widening of the A12.

It is recognised that to unlock the full potential of Chelmsford, the Board need to take a strategic view and focus on wider issues such as infrastructure, skills, new

housing: addressing the challenges of each and identifying how opportunities can be maximised. As such, the Board has recently actively supported bids to Government for the Housing Infrastructure Fund. These bids, if successful, will unlock new housing and business development and provide key infrastructure vital to Chelmsford's economic development and prosperity.

As we look forward to 2018, the Chelmsford Business Board looks to build upon its achievements and will be further strengthening its engagement with business and continuing to proactively address key priorities for business in the city. It provides the voice of business to which the City Council listens - and responds - and is instrumental in putting forward priorities to be targeted.

If you haven't already done so, I would encourage you to register for this year's Chelmsford City Showcase for Business, where I will be hosting a morning Business Briefing. This will be a great opportunity to find out more about what is happening in Chelmsford. Registration is free at www.chelmsfordshowcase.eventbrite.co.uk.

David Rayner,
Chelmsford Business Board Chair

US tech firm invests in Chelmsford operations



In March 2017, DST Systems, a public company listed on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE: DST), acquired International Financial Data Services (IFDS) in the UK and Ireland; growing DST's footprint within the European financial services industry.

Chelmsford is at the heart of DST's client services operations, employing over 700 associates across two local sites - Adams House in Springfield and Paragon House located in the city centre – making them a significant employer in the region.

As a leading provider of specialised technology, strategic advisory and business operations outsourcing to the financial and healthcare industries, DST pride themselves on long-standing customer relationships, scalable technology platforms and deep regulatory and compliance expertise. Work in the Chelmsford

offices largely centres on outsourced customer service and investment servicing operations on behalf of some of the world's most recognisable financial services brands.

DST enables their clients to transform complexity into strategic advantage; helping them to discover, design and deliver unique solutions that enhance the customer experience and increase operational excellence.

Headquartered in Kansas City, Missouri, USA, DST employ over 16,000 talented people globally, 5,000 of which are located across 12 locations in the UK and Ireland.



To learn more about DST and explore local employment opportunities, visit www.careersatDSTemea.com

BEST Growth Hub support sessions

The BEST Growth Hub provides free business support to businesses of all sizes helping them to identify and realise their potential.

Whether you are looking to start a new business, grow an existing business or find funding for a new venture, the BEST Growth Hub can assist.

The BEST team have arranged a number of drop-in surgeries to take place at Chelmsford City Council's Civic Centre. These drop-in surgeries offer the opportunity to meet face-to-face with a Business Navigator and discuss your business needs. Drop-in surgeries will take place on the following Wednesdays:

25th October
8th November
22nd November
29th November
6th December

10 am
- 4 pm

For more information and to book a slot, speak to one of the Business Navigators today on 01702 417765 or visit www.bestgrowthhub.org.uk/



BEST
FOR BUSINESS SOLUTIONS
Business Essex, Southend and Thurrock

Chelmsford City Showcase for Business

Now in its 9th year, the Chelmsford City Showcase for Business returns on Wednesday 15th November 2017, taking place at Hylands Estate, Hylands Park, London Road, Chelmsford, CM2 8WQ

This year's free-to-attend event is once again sponsored by the FSB and comprises motivating seminars, informative workshops, a business briefing and an ever-popular exhibition area.

Throughout the day attendees will be able to visit over 50 trade stands and take part in seminars, with the opportunity to raise their questions to experts. The event offers attendees invaluable business insights as well as business support and advice on a range of relevant topics including business promotion and marketing, business start-up and business growth and innovation.

The 2017 Showcase will feature two masterclasses: the first will focus on the power of brand from Mark Cullen, Director of Brand and Marketing at EY, and the second on coaching and enabling teams of the future from Brad Solomon of the CTG Group. The Best Growth Hub will deliver a workshop providing

a focus on the different types of funding available to support businesses with an opportunity to have a 1:1 session with funding providers throughout the afternoon. The FSB will also be delivering a seminar with a guest speaker and providing a FSB business networking lunch.

This event offers something of value for every business and is a fantastic opportunity to network with fellow business professionals.

For more information and to register your free place at the 2017 Chelmsford City Showcase for Business visit www.chelmsfordshowcase.eventbrite.co.uk. 01245 606568 economy@chelmsford.gov.uk www.chelmsford.gov.uk/showcase



Some of the activities featured at this year's showcase

<p>Business Briefing</p>	<p>Opening the 2017 Chelmsford City Showcase for Business is a Business Briefing led by David Rayner, Chair of the Chelmsford Business Board. The Business Briefing will provide an opportunity to hear about key developments happening locally. There will also be an opportunity for businesses to raise their priorities for the Board to look at moving forward.</p>
<p>The Power of Brand: Masterclass 1</p>	<p>This Masterclass promises to uncover what brand is... and more importantly what brand is not. Filled with useful tips on how to build a brand with little or no budget, this Masterclass is for any business, from start-ups to established companies that wants to use brand to build trust, awareness and its customer base for business impact. This masterclass will be delivered by Mark Cullen, Director of Brand and Marketing at EY, who currently runs brand marketing and communications activity for EY Financial Services across 19 countries.</p>
<p>Funding Opportunities</p>	<p>This year's Showcase event will provide a strong focus on funding opportunities available to businesses. A workshop delivered by the Best Growth Hub will provide an overview of the different opportunities available. Leading from this, attendees will be able to attend a drop in session to speak directly with the funding providers. The funding providers available at this year's Showcase event providing 1:1 advice sessions are DIT, NWES, SEBB, KEEP+ LEADER, LoCASE, University of Essex, the Manufacturing Growth Programme (see page 10 for current funding opportunities).</p>
<p>FSB - Sponsors</p>	<p>David Bell, FSB Regional Chairman, will present a brief overview of the success of business throughout the region and how the FSB can help support and develop your business. David will be joined by a guest speaker who will share their inspiring business journey with the audience. A ticketed networking lunch will follow.</p>
<p>Enabling Teams of the Future: Masterclass 2</p>	<p>In an environment which is constantly changing, with resources stretched further and further, it is important that we equip our employees with the skills to deliver. This session will offer new perspectives on coaching leadership behaviours to enable, challenge, inspire and encourage individuals and teams, be it onsite or virtual. CTG Executive Coach and Facilitator, Brad Solomon, will be delivering this seminar. He brings with him extensive experience of working with Blue Chip Corporates, Housing Associations, NHS Trusts and more.</p>



Funds allocated to improve infrastructure in the city

Chelmsford City Council has allocated over £10 million to support the delivery of new infrastructure, using funding secured via development that is taking place in the City.

The funding is being directed to a range of projects including sports facilities, parks and open spaces, flood protection, health care, public realm and highway improvements and affordable housing.

Riverside Ice and Leisure Centre is to receive £2.4 million towards supporting construction of the new leisure facility. The funding includes £745,000 for public realm and cycle way improvements to enhance the riverside through boardwalk and balustrade lighting, as well as to improve security, trees, riverbank works, paving and a cycle shelter and cycle hoops. This will see the riverside walk transformed

from its access at Victoria Road up to Prezzo and Loch Fyne where it meets Bond Street.

Other projects receiving funding include further public realm enhancements in the City Centre, enhancements to GP surgeries, 58 projects to enhance the City's parks and open spaces, flood protection, local highway schemes and the new Family Hub in the Central Library.

Elsewhere in the City Centre further improvements on the north side of the train station will soon be underway to create improved pedestrian, cycling and circulation space between the station, the

Marconi Evolution site and Anglia Ruskin University, where the new School of Medicine is now under construction.

A £15 million package of cycling, public transport and highway improvements across Chelmsford has recently been the subject of an Essex County Council consultation exercise and the prioritisation of schemes

to be delivered is now underway.

Infrastructure provision continues to be a priority for Chelmsford and the Council, working with Essex County Council, has submitted a number of bids to the Government to seek additional investment as Chelmsford continues to grow.

For further information about improvements in the City Centre:
www.chelmsford.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/developments-and-improvements-in-chelmsford/



Artist's impression of the new Riverside Ice and Leisure Centre

Chelmsford's Business Improvement District

A group of businesses in Chelmsford City Centre have begun work on proposals for a Business Improvement District ("BID"), building a positive vision of how businesses can work together to address trading concerns and cement Chelmsford as the county's premier retail and leisure destination. The BID could begin operating from April 2018.

BIDs are widely used across the UK with over 200 successfully in operation, including in Cambridge, Ipswich and Norwich. They are used to enhance the management of city centres, allowing the businesses within their area to shape and direct this to meet local objectives. This is paid for by a small levy on business premises, likely to be 1.5% of rateable value.

Importantly, BIDs supplement rather than substitute council services – their name can be misleading since they are often used to further evolve successful locations rather than being a means of regenerating under-performing ones. Perhaps the most visible example of this is The New West End Company BID covering London's West End.

Chelmsford's BID has come about following the successful opening of the Bond Street shopping development in 2016 and the subsequent rejuvenation of the city as a retail and leisure destination. Consequently, there is an emerging

belief that the city centre requires more intensive management, beyond the statutory duties of the council, so that it meets the aspirations of its wider catchment and fulfils its recently acquired City status.

Over the summer, face to face surveys were carried out with over 90 businesses and other stakeholders in the City Centre and a positive response was received to the idea of a Business Improvement District. A steering group is now formulating a business plan focussing on identified key issues: marketing and promotion, events, anti-social behaviour, cleanliness and public realm. This will be presented to businesses in the city centre with voting expected in February.



Anyone interested to learn more should contact
 Neil Ridley
neilridley@aquilaholdings.co.uk
 Chair of the Chelmsford BID Steering Group.

Chelmsford's new Local Plan

The Council's new Local Plan is progressing well, with the final version due to be published for consultation early in the New Year.

The Local Plan identifies the number and locations for houses, jobs and businesses we are planning for, along with other things needed to support growth, such as where children will go to school, where people will work, and how they will get around. It also includes draft planning policies which, when adopted, will be used to determine planning applications. The Proposals Map shows where particular policies apply.

Following consultation on

the Local Plan – Preferred Options in the spring, nearly 2,800 comments were received from more than 1,600 people and organisations and have been summarised to help produce the final version of the Local Plan. The summaries can be read in our feedback report, published on the Local Plan webpage at www.chelmsford.gov.uk/preferred-options

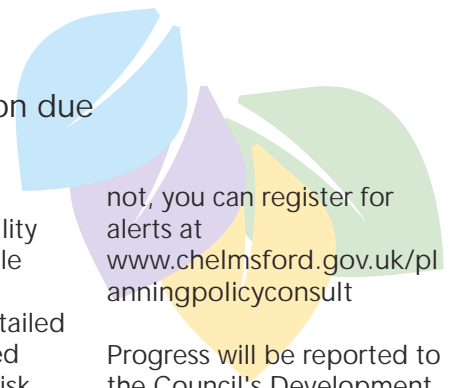
Other work to inform the document is also being finalised, including junction

modelling to look at highway capacity, viability assessment of the whole plan to make sure it is deliverable, a more detailed assessment of proposed sites in areas of flood risk, and a study to make sure the Plan meets green infrastructure needs.

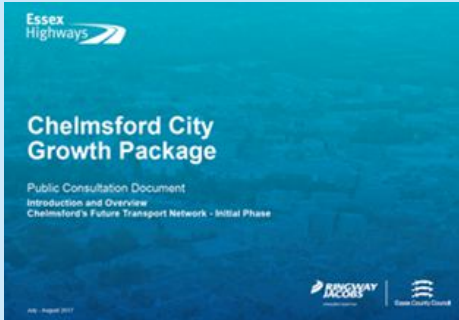
Engagement on the Local Plan will continue with the consultation on the Draft Local Plan – Pre-Submission. If you are registered on our Consultation Portal you will be automatically notified. If

not, you can register for alerts at www.chelmsford.gov.uk/planningpolicyconsult

Progress will be reported to the Council's Development Policy Committee. For updates and links to forthcoming committees please visit www.chelmsford.gov.uk/preferred-options



Chelmsford City Growth Package



Essex County Council has secured £15m to invest in a series of transport improvements around the City of Chelmsford. The investment is called the 'Chelmsford City Growth Package', and has a focus on sustainable transport options in order to support future housing and job growth, with highways improvements to tackle congestion hotspots.

The Chelmsford City Growth Package identifies 29 proposed schemes across the Chelmsford urban area. The schemes have been split into five areas:

- North Chelmsford
- West Chelmsford
- Chelmsford City Centre
- Parkway Corridor
- South and East Chelmsford

In addition, city-wide signage and technology improvements have also been identified.

Throughout July and August, Essex County Council undertook a consultation exercise to gain feedback on the proposals outlined in the Chelmsford City Growth Package. The consultation closed on 28 August, with nearly 1,000 responses from individuals, businesses, local authorities and other organisations.

Consultation responses are currently being examined in depth to understand the views of respondents on the proposed schemes. This review will be used, alongside other information, to decide which schemes will be included in the final business case for funding, due to be submitted to South East Local Enterprise Partnership (SELEP) later this year.

For further information about the Chelmsford City Growth Package, please visit www.essex.gov.uk/chelmsfordtransport



Chelmsford: a great opportunity

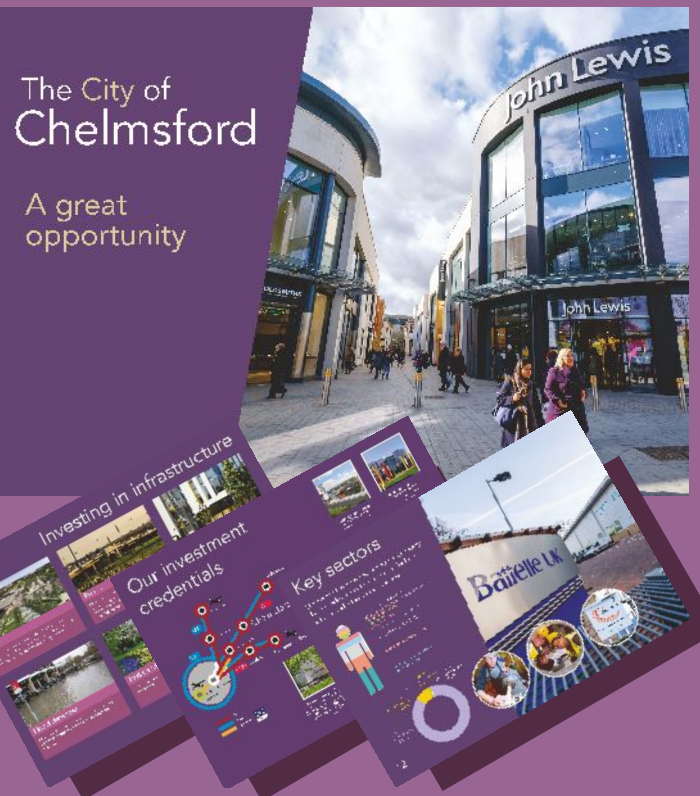
"The City of Chelmsford: A great opportunity" brochure was published recently and circulated to a variety of commercial agents, consultants and others. The purpose of the brochure is to make businesses aware of the excellent opportunities that Chelmsford offers by highlighting its vision, strategic location, investment credentials, high quality workforce, high educational attainment, quality of life, commitment to investing in infrastructure, key sectors, existing high profile businesses, and commercial opportunities.

The brochure is supplemented by a comprehensive Commercial

Opportunities Guide that not only covers a wide range of office, retail, and industrial premises but also includes future developments currently in progress and those coming forward over the next few years.

Both documents can be downloaded from www.chelmsford.gov.uk/business/commercial-property-searches/

Should you feel this could be a useful tool for your organisation, please get in touch for further details or to request printed copies via economy@chelmsford.gov.uk



Civic Centre - Venue Hire

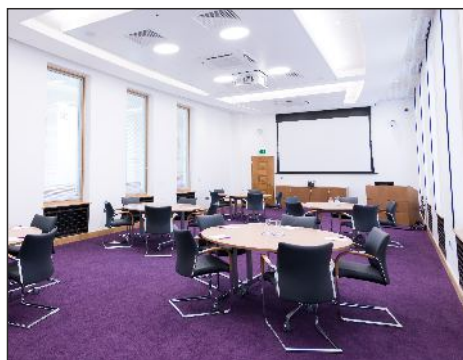


City Centre

Right in the heart of Chelmsford you will find our Civic Centre venue, with a suite of corporate meeting rooms available for hire.

The air-conditioned rooms now have a modern contemporary look and are fully-equipped with high quality AV systems, making the venue a great place to hold anything from interviews and small boardroom meetings through to large training courses, conferences, seminars, exhibitions and award ceremonies.

Consisting of four spacious meeting rooms that range in size, they can accommodate from 10 to 200 people.



Marconi Room



Crompton Room

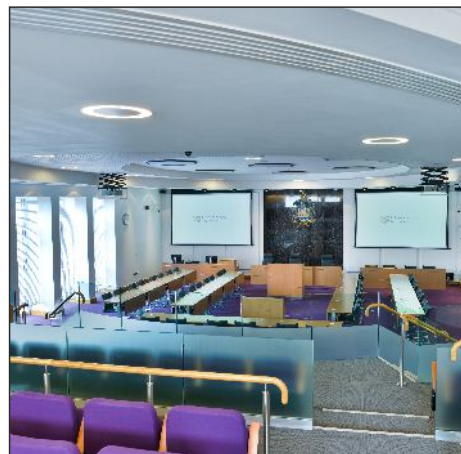
The Civic Centre maintains the art deco personality and quality; it is both a unique and modern venue.

Importantly, it is ideally located next to the bus station and train station with several City Centre car parks nearby.

The Council Chamber is a purpose-built meeting and conference space that can hold up to 200 people. It is big enough to accommodate 70 people in a seated boardroom-style, plus has an additional tiered auditorium for over 120 people.

The Marconi Room can hold up to 60 people whilst the Crompton Room holds 30 people in a theatre style.

www.chelmsfordcityvenues.co.uk/city-centre



Council Chamber

Perfect for
your meetings
and
conferences

Hylands

Hylands House offers an elegant alternative: the house is a Georgian mansion based at Hylands Park which is just a 15 minute drive from the City Centre and easily accessible from the A12. This prestigious venue has a number of rooms and also has a Grand Pavilion that can hold 300 people (250 at seated meal) and is perfect for exhibitions, award ceremonies and parties.

www.chelmsfordcityvenues.co.uk/hylands-estate

Museum

Chelmsford Museum is a unique corporate venue that offers a range of rooms in a historic setting that are ideal for seminars, talks, meetings and evening social events.

www.chelmsfordcityvenues.co.uk/museums

Please browse through our venues at www.chelmsfordcityvenues.co.uk

If you have any questions about any of our venues, or if you would like to check the availability, you are welcome to contact our Corporate Sale Executive on 01245 606348



Chelmsford
City Council

Grants and advice available

A significant number of grants and unrivalled advice from experts is currently available to businesses to help them develop, grow and save energy costs. Whether a start-up business or one that is already established, particularly Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) can qualify for many of the following schemes. Several schemes are also applicable to charities.

Business Innovation Vouchers

University of Essex - Support available: Grants up to £5,000. Offering Innovation vouchers to provide funding for SMEs to engage with universities, with the opportunity to foster long-term partnerships.

Essex Growth Programme

Backed by the European Regional Development Fund, the programme helps individuals establish new businesses and helps existing businesses to grow through advice and a capital grant programme: 20% intervention rate of up to £20,000

Food Processing Grants / Rural Tourism Infrastructure / Rural Business Development

Support available: Grants between £50,000 and £1,000,000. All the Open Rolling Calls close on 31st January 2018.

Get Exporting 2 Programme

Support available: Grants up to £3,000. Get Exporting 2 is a tailored programme of advice and assistance, both financial and 1-2-1, to enable companies to begin selling overseas or to expand internationally thereby increasing profitability and employment in a sustainable way.

Grants for the Arts

Support available: Grants between £1,000 and £100,000. Grants for the Arts has been designed to encourage applicants to develop ideas linked to artistic needs and future plans. It aims to be flexible and to encourage new ideas.

KEEP+

A European Regional Development (ERDF) Funded programme supporting SMEs to access knowledge and expertise through collaboration with universities and research institutions.

LEADER Support

(particularly Essex Rivers Local Action Group covering Chelmsford rural area): Grants of up to 40% available to grow economic activity in rural areas. Minimum grant amount of £10,000. LEADER is part of the Rural Development Programme for England (RDPE) which provides funding to rural businesses and communities (see p11).

Low carbon across the south east (LoCASE)

Support available: Grants between £1,000 and £10,000. Helps businesses work in ways that are environmentally-friendly, with low carbon emissions, and make the best use of resources (see p12).

Manufacturing Growth Programme

The Manufacturing Growth Programme (MGP) provides free advice and grant support to manufacturing businesses to support the implementation of a growth plan. Grants available at 35% intervention rate.

South East Business Boost (SEBB)

Support available: Grants between £1,000 and £10,000. Capital grants at 30% intervention rate are available to support businesses in the SELEP region to grow. Free business advice is also available for SMEs and start-up companies.

The Prince's Trust

Support available: Grants between £1 and £3,000. The aim of the Trust is to provide practical and financial support to young people in the UK that are not in work, education or training. The scheme helps develop key skills, confidence and motivation, enabling young people to move into work, education or training. The maximum grant assistance available is £3,000 although this varies by programme. Loans of up to £5,000 are also available.



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Further details are available in the first instance by visiting:

www.bestgrowthhub.org.uk/

or contact us by e-mailing

info@BESTGrowthHub.org.uk

and we can carry out a grant search for your business. Additionally, the 2017 Showcase for Business (see p4) has a focus on funding with the opportunity to speak directly to funding providers.

Essex Rivers LEADER funds a Robocrop, Passenger Boat and Nursery

Three local organisations have recently received a cash boost from the EU LEADER grant in the Essex area to enable them to increase their staff and expand their organisations.

Tillingham Hall Farms (Sarah Greens Organics)

has received a grant of £23,000 towards a Robocrop which is an innovative, camera-guided robotic weeder which will allow the high speed and economic weed control of the existing farm's organic vegetable crops. This will ultimately lead to more reliable production and improve the viability of the farm. It will also allow the farm to increase the vegetable growing area by 4.53ha to a total of 21.86ha and take on a further 2 full time staff.

Essex Waterways

is a local charity which has received £33,000 towards the purchase of Victoria, a passenger boat on the Chelmer & Blackwater Navigation, based at Paper Mill Lock. The boat was built specifically for this waterway and was about to be sold. Essex Waterways saw the potential for an income stream for the charity and were successful in being awarded a grant for the project.

Jesters Integrated Childcare

is based in Bicknacre and the owner has been running a very successful after school club for the past 16 years. She is now opening a nursery and has received a grant of £88,000 to help her achieve this.

The Essex Rivers Local Action Group has been set up to distribute £1.8million of LEADER funding to rural businesses and organisations in parts of Essex. The aim of the EU grant is to help boost growth and create jobs in the countryside and the group is made up of local community representatives from rural businesses and public bodies.

Robert Davidson, Chairman of the Essex Rivers Local Action Group and a local farmer, said:

"We were delighted to be able to support these three projects by granting this money. They are very diverse projects and illustrate the wonderful mix of businesses we have in Essex."

"This is great news for the rural economy in Essex and all projects will lead to more jobs and a boost to each community."

Beverly Davies, LEADER Programme Manager, added:

"You don't have to be a business to apply; if you are a farmer, smallholder, forester or are involved in local tourism, you may be eligible for a grant. Just contact me and I will let you know if you are eligible to apply for money for your project. We still have grant to give out and are looking for new applications."



'Victoria' at Paper Mill Lock, Little Baddow



For more information contact Beverly Davies at the Rural Community Council of Essex on 01376 547330 or visit the website www.essexrcc.org.uk

Could a Capital Grant help to grow your business?

Enterprise agency, NWES has announced the provision of a dedicated capital grants brokerage service for Essex businesses, in partnership with Deyton Bell Ltd.

With grants of up to 20% of eligible costs or £20,000, whichever is lower, the programme supports investment in the purchase and installation of equipment, machinery, technology, and processes that facilitate business growth to improve resilience, productivity, or create jobs.

Additionally, the grants can be used to support investment in efficiency initiatives in the form of equipment to realise materials or utilities optimisation, recovery or reduction, or to support improvements to business premises that create extra capacity and enable growth.

Additionally, the programme can provide business advice and support to provide the skills to new and growing business owners to maximise their capital investment.

Simon Best, European Strategy Manager at NWES said, "This is a free, confidential and impartial service that will help SMEs put together compelling applications that maximise their chances of securing financial support."

To find out more about how the grants brokerage service could support your business, full terms and conditions, and eligibility criteria, visit bit.ly/grants-support-essex or contact Deyton Bell on essexgrants@deytonbell.com or 01223 873033.

The Essex Growth Programme is supported by the European Regional Development Fund.



LoCASE – Going From Strength to Strength!

The LoCASE project goes from strength to strength with over £1.7 million in grants approved since February 2016!

From air-conditioning, PR, marketing & IT, to refrigeration, new LED lighting and so much more...the LoCASE project is here to help maximise your business potential!

Two Chelmsford Successes!

EPC Improvements provide advice & solutions to improve property energy efficiency through access to government grants, meeting the "Minimum Energy Efficiency Standard Regulations" (MEES).

New regulations will soon make it unlawful to let buildings in England and Wales below a minimum Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) "E2" rating. A LoCASE grant of £10,000 helped to fund a campaign on Phoenix Radio raising awareness of the regulations, and a social media / search engine /online campaign, helped to raise their profile and grow their business!

Intelliconnect designs and manufactures components and connectors for the defence industry along with connectors for water monitoring companies.

Receiving a LoCASE grant of over £2,300 enabled the purchase of a second Solidworks license (3D CAD Software) reducing training visits to the Corby based manufacturing facility. Expected savings will be; 4.29 tonnes of CO2e, 14,300 miles of road travel (273 tonne.km) - resulting in savings of over £4,000 pa.

Reduced emissions by companies engaged with the LoCASE project amounts to thousands of tonnes saved per annum, with savings of thousands of pounds on energy bills, and business in the low carbon sector are achieving their growth potential.

For small/medium sized businesses looking to save money on overheads, or offering low carbon goods or services, **grants of up to £10,000 are available right now!**

The Low Carbon Across the South East project, part funded by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), aims to support SMEs across the South East Local Enterprise Partnership (SELEP) region, to improve their energy efficiency.

For further details contact:
Email business@thurrock.gov.uk
Phone 01375 652271
Website www.locase.co.uk



European Union
European Regional
Development Fund

Happy First Birthday Bond Street!

On Saturday 30th September Bond Street Chelmsford celebrated its first birthday in style, with a full day of activities and offers to keep shoppers entertained. Starting with a dramatic parade through the High Street, the entertainment then moved into The Bond Street Bowl events space. Customers were treated to hours of live music from bands and DJs, close-hand magic, artistic face-painting, dance classes and a spectacular confetti cannon finale. Stores and restaurants joined in the fun offering discounts and prizes throughout the day.



Bond Street is now at almost full occupancy with Wilkin & Sons and Phase 8 soon to open. The event saw increased foot fall in Bond Street and Chelmsford City Centre.



Recycling collections from Chelmsford City Council can save you money...

Recycling your waste can help your business save money and reduce its environmental impact. This is because a lot of waste is made up of useful materials which can be made into new products or used to produce energy.

Sending waste to landfill is already expensive and the costs are increasing each year. However, if we separate the useful materials we can reduce the amount of waste which goes to landfill and save money. We pass these savings onto you via our low fixed priced recycling costs.

We can provide recycling collections for the following separated materials:

- Mixed Paper & Cardboard
- Plastics and Cartons
- Glass Bottles & Jars
- Food and Drink Cans
- Food Waste

Our rates are competitive and our costs are inclusive of bin rental and Duty of Care documents. We can offer a flexible service and collections carried out by Local Authorities are VAT exempt.



To find out more please visit:

Website: www.chelmsford.gov.uk/trade Email: tradecollections@chelmsford.gov.uk Telephone: 01245 615800

Updated Essex Skills Evidence Base

A regional skills and employment report has been created to the benefit of thousands of Essex businesses, academic institutions, local authorities and training providers, earlier this year. The annual Skills Evidence Base, first launched in 2014, has been refreshed for 2017 and is expected to be used as a valuable tool in shaping the skills system and closing vital skills gaps in some of Essex's key growth industries.

Developed by the Essex Employment and Skills Board (ESB), a strategic group formed of employers across Essex, Southend-On-Sea and Thurrock, the Skills Evidence Base consists of profiles on all 14 districts and seven key sector profiles including:

- Advanced Manufacturing & Engineering
- Care
- Construction
- Financial & Related Services
- Health
- IT, Digital & Creative
- Logistics

This year, there were 84,500 job vacancies in these seven sectors alone. As a result, the ESB are continuing to deliver new and existing programmes with backing from its members such as: Raytheon UK, the Federation of Small

Businesses, Ford Motor Company Limited, the NHS, London Stansted (MAG) and DST (formerly IFDS).

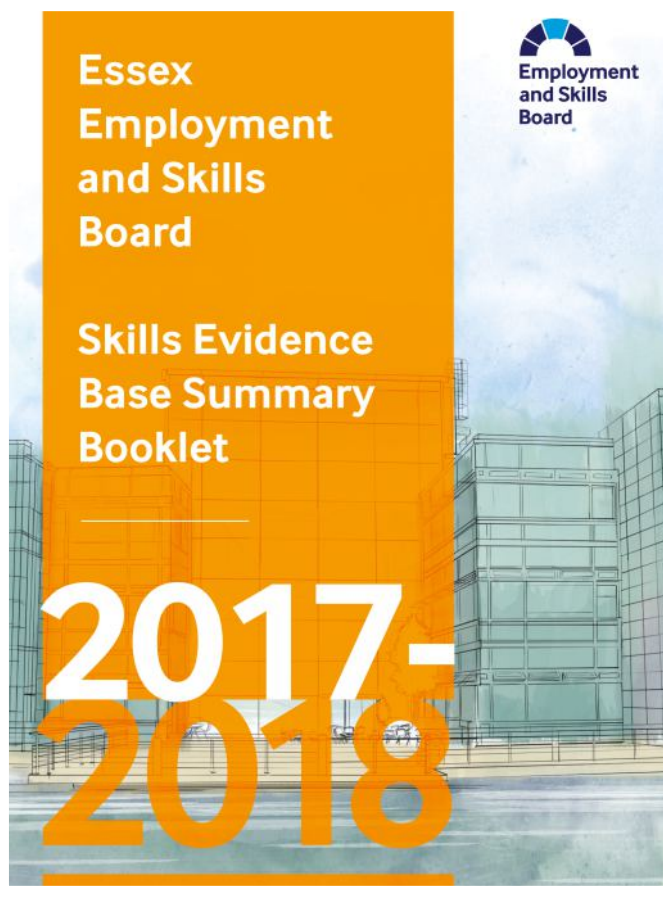
As with previous editions, a combination of published data and statistics, local business feedback and information on planned future developments has been used. In addition to this, an overview on some of the challenges and opportunities of 2016's Brexit result also features as further insight for businesses and training providers alike.

Our free, interactive summary booklet is available to download on our website:
www.essexesb.co.uk/our-research/

To find out more about the board or its activities, please contact us at:
theboard@essexesb.co.uk



**Employment
and Skills
Board**



Successful STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) Industry event

July was an extremely busy month for the 'Essex Employment and Skills Boards (ESB)' 'Education and Industry STEM Programme' with a number of events happening all over the county, including our first ever 'Finance Taster Day' at Anglia Ruskin University's Chelmsford Campus.

110 year 8 students from Essex schools came along for a day of industry and ARU-led workshops and presentations, all focused on highlighting future opportunities in the Finance sector. RSA Insurance, Etec and DST - formerly IFDS (ESB sector lead for the Finance sector) led workshops throughout the morning, with ARU also kindly laying on a tour of the campus for students and an exclusive look at the University's fantastic Bloomberg Financial Markets Lab.

After lunch, students paired up for a quiz based on the information contained in the ESB's "Skills Evidence Base" and "Finance Sector Profile", and the Board's "What's Your Thing" brochure which has

previously been distributed to year 9 students at all Essex schools. Genine from RSA Insurance then took attendees through her typical working day, and Ross from DST talked to students about the various career pathways into the company, from Apprenticeships to Postgraduate schemes.

We're hugely grateful to our industry representatives and to ARU staff for supporting the day, and of course to the school students and staff who made the day so enjoyable. This event is just one example of a number of events and projects we deliver through the Education and Industry STEM Programme, focusing on each of our key industry sectors.

If you'd like more information about the programme or would simply like to offer your support, email us at e&i.stem@essex.gov.uk and visit www.essexsb.co.uk/our-activities/e-i-stem-programme.



Jobs and Skills Fair Success

On September 21st the Chelmsford Jobs and Skills Fair 2017 took place in Chelmsford High Street.

The event was organised and led by Chelmsford Jobcentre Plus working in partnership with Chelmsford City Council, Chelmsford College, Essex County Council, CXK and the Employment and Skills Board.

Sponsored by DST (formally IFDS), the event attracted job hunters from far and wide who came along to find out about the huge array of opportunities on offer. The event showcased vacancies from a wide

range of employers and recruiters, including DST, Dunelm Mill, Pinnacle group, Mid Essex Health Trust (NHS), Smyths Toys, UPS and Debenhams.

Representatives from Chelmsford College and the National Apprenticeship Service also attended, offering training opportunities and advice.

Steve Hyde, Employee Advisor at Chelmsford Jobcentre Plus

commented, 'It was a fantastic event which generated tremendous interest. Chelmsford is being transformed into a vibrant modern City which is attracting some of the biggest names in business, many of whom attended the Jobs and Skills Fair to promote hundreds of new vacancies and other opportunities in the local area that are waiting to be filled. Chelmsford really is 'Your City of Opportunity'.'

From Cadet to Reservist, Essex based Finance Analyst goes the distance



25-year-old Kevin McLeod Howard (pictured far right) has been an Army Reservist for nearly seven years. Living across the Hertfordshire border in Bishops Stortford, Kevin makes the daily commute to Harlow where he works for Raytheon UK, a technology and innovation leader specialising in defence, national security, and other government and commercial markets around the world. But he travels much further afield to dedicate his time to the Army's newest combat regiment, The Scottish and North Irish Yeomanry, which has a footprint across Scotland and Northern Ireland.

"I'd always wanted to be a reservist since I was a kid. From being a cadet, I swiftly moved on to the University Officers' Training Corps and finally became a reservist with the regiment closest to my heart as a true born Scot. The obvious distance of travel to Scotland has not phased me and as the training schedule is given far in advance I can easily make arrangements to keep both my employer and squadron happy."

Raytheon UK is a prime contractor and major supplier to the UK Ministry of Defence and Kevin works at its headquarters which is home to their engineering, programme management and corporate business functions. As a Finance Analyst, he's office based full-time 9 'til 5 so the excitement of reservist life offers a welcome break away from the desk.

"The training has been some of the most enjoyable things I've done and I've had the opportunity to be involved with light cavalry tactics,

annual camps and adventure training in a number of countries. I've gained a management diploma and benefited from leadership and management training. My employer certainly benefits from the other core skills I've acquired; mainly good time management, discipline and a strong work ethic."

Raytheon UK know more than most businesses how important and mutually beneficial it is to employ reservists. In 2014 they received a Silver Award as part of the Armed Forces Covenant Employer Recognition Scheme. The programme celebrates and recognises the support given to Defence personnel by employers that pledge, demonstrate or advocate support to the Armed Forces Community.

Raytheon UK's Chief Executive and Managing Director, Richard Daniel, commented: "Raytheon remains committed to supporting the Armed

Forces community and we are proud to be an employer of our UK reservists."

"The Silver Award is a reflection of our voluntary pledge, which demonstrates our appreciation for the armed forces through the employment opportunities we offer, and the initiatives which we support throughout the year such as Armed Forces Week."

"In the future we will continue to create opportunities to reservists who play a key role in our Armed Forces by supporting the UK's defence capability and our nation's workforce."

Troop Leader Kevin Howard is certainly dedicated to the cause and encourages anybody thinking about joining the reserves "to give it everything you can. The more you put in the more you get out."

Further information can be found online www.earfca.org.uk

Keeping you informed

The Economic Development & Implementation Team at Chelmsford City Council strives to keep local businesses informed on all matters that assist or affect them. Information that can help businesses is the focus of our communication. This includes details of growth opportunities, financial support through various grants, training workshops, events and other beneficial schemes and news.

Business News is published twice a year and is supplemented by electronic bulletins to alert you to

current news and opportunities.

We are conscious that our database needs to be kept relevant and up-to-date and wish to ensure that all communications reach the right people. If your details have changed, you have ceased trading or you do not wish to receive this publication please let us know and we will make those amendments. Email economy@chelmsford.gov.uk or contact us via details on page 2.

With regulations changing it is important for you to 'opt-in' to

receive e-bulletins from us. You can do this by going to:

www.chelmsford.gov.uk/business/business-news-events-and-advice/business-communications and simply clicking 'Join our mailing list'. Alternatively, drop us a line at the same email address giving us permission to email you.

Your email address will not be passed onto anyone else and rest assured we will send only considered and relevant communication.